the port area in an area of 80 hectares at an estimated cost of Rs.3.44 lakhs.

4. Urjagram Project

Four villages, namely Dakamavi, Duvvapalam, Kotanarva and villes Thimmapuram have been identified under the Government of India's Urjagram project and energy surveys completed.

5. Wind Energy

a. Wind Survey:- One wind ,monitoring station was set up in Bhimunipatnam of Visakhapatnam District during September 1988. Data is being collected for estimating wind potential.

b. Wind Mapping Project:- Two wind mapping stations-one at Vaddadi and another at Narasingapalli were set up and the data is collected for preparation of wind climatology.

No proposal has been yet made for setting of any wind power project in Visakhapatnam district.

Train between Hyderabad and Parli

5390. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a fast passenger train from Hyderabad to Parli, via Vikarabad and Bidar;

(b) if so, when

(c) whether the Government are aware that the arrival and departure timings of the present two trains running on this rout e are most inconvenient to the passengers; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to adjust the timings of these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Schedules of both the passenger trains viz. 347/348, Secunderabad-Parlivaijnath and 349/350 Hyderabad-Parlivaijnath are considered convenient to the passengers.

(d) Does not arise.

DESU Billing System

5391. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "DESU losing crores every month " appearing in the Indian Express dated August 9, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and whether the DESU has changed its billing system from bi-monthly to four monthly meter reading system;

(c) if so, whether this new billing system is causing losses to DESU ; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the present system of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU), bills to th e domestic consumerr are sent on bimonthly basis and to the non-domestic/ industrial consumers on monthly basis. A bill on actual matter reading basis is prepared every four months and a bill on provisional basis is sent in between for two months based on past consumption in the case of domestic consumers. The system of four monthly meter reading adopted by DESU requires number of Meter Readers.

(c) According to DESU, the system of four monthly reading of meters in respect of domestic consumers does not specifically lead to misuse of energy or cause loss to DESU as a Four-digit Meter can record consumption upto 9999 units which a domestic consumer is not likely top exceed in a period of four months.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c)of the Question.

[*Translation*]

Direct train between Indore and Madras

5392. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to introduce a direct train service to link Indore with Madras; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STAT E IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This has been examined but not found feasible.

[*English*]

Contract for Oil Exploration in Himachal Pradesh

5393. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has awarded contract for oil and gas exploration in Changartalai area in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the detailed of contracts and the terms and conditions therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STAT E IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). Not a contract for exploration but a drilling contract has been awarded to Mahindra and Mahindra for Jwalamukhi project or any other location in Northern Regional Business Centre of ONGC. The contract is on daily rate basis for a period of two years for one rig.

Overstay of Contractual Engineers in ITDC

5394. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons in the Engineering Cadre of ITDC appointed on contractual basis are allowed to continue to look after the important assi. gments involving financial and other transactions after the expiry of their contract period;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the details of such persons as on June, 1991 alongwith the job/assigment being undertaken by each of them;

(c) whether cases of irregularities/ mapractices/leakage of funds have been reported on account of these persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken/propose to be taken in this regard; and

(e) whether these persons are likely to be removed from the organisation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Five Assistant Managers (Engg.) have been continuing after expiry of their contract.

(b) Statement appended.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Continuation of their employment will be considered in the light of operational necessities with the ITDC.